

The Purpose Of Baptist Record

Each man who has served as editor of the Baptist Record has taken his task seriously, and has set out to make the paper the strongest possible witness for Christ and an undergirding force for all of the work of Mississippi Baptists and Southern Baptists.

Since few copies of the paper before 1898 are available we do not have statements of purpose from the early editors. However, every copy of the Baptist Record since 1898 is in the Mississippi Baptist Historical Society collection at Mississippi College, and the following editorial excerpts are taken from them: FIRST EDITORIAL OF J. B. SEARCY, NOVEMBER 16, 1898.

With deep gratitude to God and profound reverence for brethren I now make my bow as editor of The Baptist, which is to be the organ for the Baptist of Mississippi.

I am a native of Alabama, but it was in Newton county, in this State, September the 30th, 1855, that "I first saw the light, and the burden of my sins rolled away." In the providence of God most of my Christian life has been spent in another state, but as in the past, so in the future, my constant effort will be to unify, rather than divide my brethren.

We are Baptists, nothing less, nothing more. As I said in becoming editor of the Arkansas paper seventeen years ago, "we expect ever to advocate and vindicate the time honored principles of our faith, but shall endeavor to steer clear of endless and unprofitable discussion between brethren of a common faith."

We have no friends to favor, nor foes to frown upon. The columns of The Baptist will ever be open to the promotion of all measures fostered by our State Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention. I believe as much prayer, and care, ought to be given to what goes into a religious paper as into the pastor's sermon. I shall aim at this ideal, and therefore beg the prayers and co-operation of all my brethren.

Yours to serve,
J. B. Searcy

Dr. T. J. Bailey made no editorial statement of purpose at the beginning of his editorial leadership. He had been business manager for the paper, and simply took over editorial duties when Dr. J. B. Searcy retired.

The statement by Dr. P. I. Lipsey is being used as a guest editorial on the editorial page.

DR. A. L. GOODRICH BECAME EDITOR OF THE BAPTIST RECORD AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR 1942. HE MADE NO INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT OF POLICY, BUT LATER IN THE YEAR, LOOKING TOWARD 1943, HE SAID, AMONG OTHER THINGS.

"We aim to keep the Baptist Record true to the Bible as it always has been. Any article that casts doubt upon God's Word has no chance of publication.

We aim to do all that we can to promote the Cooperative Program. It is the best plan that Baptists now have for the promotion of their work. Hence we feel honor bound to do anything we can that will help that program."

WHEN DR. W. C. FIELDS, BECAME EDITOR IN 1956, HE WROTE.

"Among the diverse responsibilities falling upon Baptist newspapers there are these which we cannot forget:

First, last and always, that we present Christ to the nations, 'for in him dwelleth all the Godhead bodily.'

Second, that we faithfully publish the truth as God has given Baptists light so see it and that 'we stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free'.

Third, that integrity, forthrightness, independence and the highest qualities of good journalism be continually employed to achieve these high and holy Kingdom purposes.

But each for the joy of the working, and each, in his separate star, shall draw the things as he sees it, for the God of things as they are."

WHEN THE PRESENT EDITOR CAME TO HIS POST, HE WROTE.

"As the responsibility for editing the Record becomes mine, I find in my mind some definite convictions and determinations concerning it.

It shall continue its witness for Christ on the same firm foundations laid by those who have gone before. It shall strive to fulfill the purpose defined in the constitution of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

Its message shall be centered in Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord, in the Bible as the inspired Word of God, and in the doctrines of faith as held by Baptists.

It shall be missionary and evangelistic, promoting the whole program of Mississippi Baptists and Southern Baptists as they seek to carry the gospel of Christ to the whole world.

It shall seek to bring inspiration and information to every Mississippi Baptist, and to be a servant of every church, working with the pastors and church leaders in kingdom building.

These have been the purposes set forth by the men who have directed the paper through these years. How well they accomplished, or are accomplishing these things, will have to be judged by the people, and by our Lord Himself.



T. J. Walne
1873-1883



Lewis Ball
1883-1885

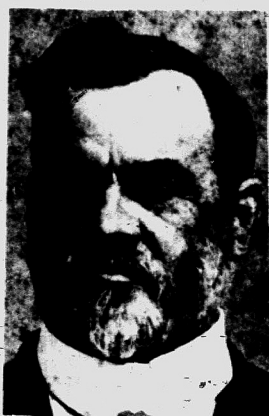


J. B. Gambrell
1885-1887

Mississippi Baptist Executive Secretaries Since 1877



J. T. Christian
1887-1893



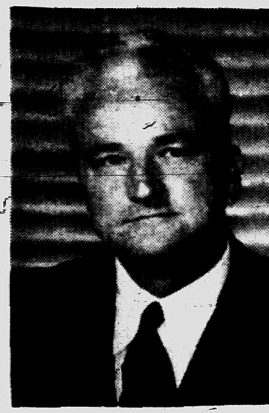
A. V. Rowe
1893-1913



J. B. Lawrence
1914-1921



R. B. Gunter
1921-1939



D. A. McCall
1939-1950



Chester L. Quarles
1950-

Emeritus Foreign Missionaries To Be Honored In 1967 Conferences

Emeritus missionaries will be honored guests at the Foreign Mission Conferences at Ridgecrest (N.C.) and Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Assemblies this summer. The Ridge-

crest meeting will be held June 15-21, the one at Glorieta, August 17-23.

New missionaries will be appointed in the opening session of the conference at Glorieta, where the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board will hold a three-day meeting.

The theme for both conferences is "Teaching Them to Observe." The regular daily schedule will include mission study sessions for all age groups, Bible study, testimonies by furloughing missionaries, vespers, and noonday and evening services. The international lawn parties which have become a tradition at Foreign Mission Conferences will be held, colorful with missionaries garbed in the costumes of the lands where they work.

At each conference the emeritus missionaries will be specially recognized during

one of the worship services. Last June the Board voted that, beginning in 1967, every fifth year will be designated Emeritus Missionary Year and that during these years all emeritus missionaries may attend one of the Foreign Mission Conferences as guests of the Board.

Guest speakers at Ridgecrest will be Dr. H. Franklin Paschall, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, Mrs. Robert Fling, president of Woman's Missionary Union, Robert S. Denny, an associate secretary of the Baptist World Alliance, and William A. Mitchiner, Baptist businessman from Oxford, N.C.

At Glorieta speakers will include Dr. Robert B. Naylor, president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex., Dr. C. Grady Cothen, president of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, and Dr. C. Ronald Goulding, another associate secretary of the Baptist World Alliance.

HMB Adds Workers

(Continued from page 1) under the department of work with National Baptists were jointly appointed by the Home Mission Board and state conventions.

Earle F. Stirewalt, a Georgia native, will serve as secretary of the program of Negro work for the Baptist Convention of the State of Georgia, with headquarters in Atlanta.

Henry Lee Chennault will serve as state director of work with National Baptists and as an associate in the department of missions of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, with headquarters in Oklahoma City.

Stanley B. Bagley, a New Jersey native, also was appointed by the department of work with National Baptists to serve as a teacher-missionary in Langston University, Langston, Okla.

Mr. and Mrs. Nathanael

Rangel were appointed by the language missions department to serve with the Portuguese in Oakland, Calif.

Robert C. Sherer, a missionary to Japan for 18 years serving under the SBC Foreign Mission Board, was appointed by the metropolitan missions department as superintendent of missions for the Capital City Baptist Association in Springfield, Ill.

Graham, Pope Rank High In 'Most Admired' Poll

NEW YORK (EP)—Two religious leaders were listed in the 1967 Gallup Poll on the men "most admired" by Americans.

They were evangelist Billy Graham, the Southern Baptist clergyman, and Pope Paul VI. They were ranked fourth and fifth in the survey—the same rankings they received last year.

In comparison to other years, when he won runaway victories, President Johnson won the "most admired" title by only a slight margin over former President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Hastings Named

(Continued from page 1) become editor of the Ohio Baptist.

A native of Marion, Ill., he received the A. B. degree with honors from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, the B. D. and the Th. D. degrees from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Texas.

For five years the new Illinois editor was associate to Merrill D. Moore, then the Stewardship Promotion Secretary of the Southern Baptist Executive Committee, Nashville, Tenn. From 1960-1965, Hastings was Secretary of Stewardship Promotion for the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Middletown.

He has conducted stewardship conferences throughout the Southern Baptist Convention and in Canada, Mexico, Latin America and England. Hastings assisted in the development of the Forward Program of Church Finance and simplified materials for publication in Portuguese and Spanish.

In addition to being the author of six books, the new editor is the author of more than a thousand magazine articles, features, and curriculum studies.



Dr. Robert J. Hastings

No One Attends Indiana Baptist Unity Meeting

By Al Shackelford

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. (BP)

The first effort of the Indiana Baptist Convention (American Baptist) to bring about closer relationships with other Baptist groups in the state met with "near failure," according to Stanley Dodgson, chairman of the convention's division of cooperative Christianity.

Dodgson had invited representatives from 16 Baptist fellowships in Indiana to a recent meeting, but no one attended.

The only response to his letter of invitation, according to Dodgson, was a letter from E. Harmon Moore, executive secretary of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana (Southern Baptist).

Moore, in the letter, stated interest in any effort toward increasing understanding among Baptists within the state, but also expressed a hesitancy of involvement in any formal discussions or plans without authorization from the SBC-affiliated convention.

Dodgson was attempting to implement a resolution passed by the Indiana Baptist Convention (ABC) at its annual meeting last fall which stated "that beginning immediately, we join together with other interested Baptist bodies to study the Biblical basis of our faith, particularly those things that tend to separate us in the light of all those things that should unite us."

The resolution also stated that "we are seriously considering eventual union with them (other Baptist groups) if we find during negotiations that the Holy Spirit is so guiding us."

Groundbreaking Set In Hattiesburg

Groundbreaking services will be held next Sunday morning February 5, on the lot of 38th Ave. Church in Hattiesburg where construction of a new auditorium will begin immediately. Plans and specifications have already been adopted for the new construction.



MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST HEADQUARTERS were located on the corner of Capitol and President Streets in Jackson, from around 1920, until the present Baptist Building was bought in 1945. Baptist Record offices were second floor, rear, and other Baptist offices second floor, front. The Baptist Record was then printed by Purser Brothers in the building directly behind (shown at far left). Draughon's Business College was on third floor. Mrs. O. M. Jones, Baptist Book Store manager for 31 years, says that the Baptist Book Store on the first floor of the above building was only 15 feet wide.

Carey To Offer Teacher's Exam

Approximately 30 to 35 William Carey College students will take the National Teacher's Examination this year. These examinations have been prepared and administered since 1950 by the Educational Testing Service, a non-profit educational organization, according to Dr. Roy Bigelow, acting chairman of the department of education.

The test will be given on three dates in 1967. The dates of the test are March 18, July 1, and October 7. The closing date for registration for the test to be given March 18 is February 17. All students taking this test are urged to file before this date.

Two types of exams are offered: (1) the common exams which are designed to provide an appraisal of a prospective teacher's professional and general education; (2) the Teaching Area Exams which are designed to evaluate understanding of the subject matter and methods applicable to specific teaching areas.



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The Baptist Book Store proudly serving Mississippi Baptists recognizes its co-laborer, The Baptist Record, on the occasion of its 90th anniversary, and wishes it many more years of fruitful service in kingdom work.

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